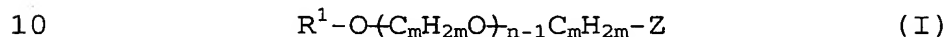


## AMENDED CLAIMS

[received at the International Office on February 07,  
2005, original claims 1-16 replaced by amended  
claims 1-11]

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1. The use of random comb polymers which are obtainable by free-radical copolymerization of a vinylic poly(alkylene oxide) compound (A) of the general formula (I)

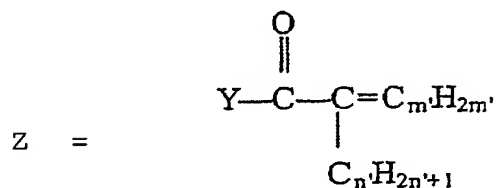


where

15  $R^1 =$  hydrogen, a  $C_1$ - $C_{20}$ -alkyl radical, a cycloaliphatic  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ -cycloalkyl radical, a substituted or unsubstituted  $C_6$ - $C_{14}$ -aryl radical,

$m =$  2 to 4,

$n =$  1 to 250,



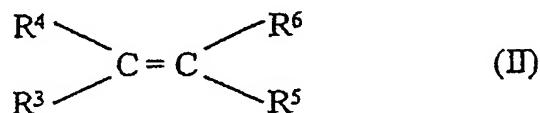
20  $Y =$  O or  $NR^2$ ,

$R^2 =$  hydrogen, a  $C_1$ - $C_{12}$ -alkyl radical, a  $C_6$ - $C_{14}$ -aryl radical,  $-C_mH_{2m}(O-C_mH_{2m})_{n-1}OR^1$ ,

$m' =$  1 to 4 and

$n' =$  0 to 2,

25 with an ethylenically unsaturated monomer compound (B) of the general formula (II),



where

30  $R^3 =$  H,  $CH_3$ ,  $COOH$  or a salt thereof,  $COOR^7$  or  $CONR^7R^7$ ,

- $R^4 =$  H, a substituted or unsubstituted  $C_6-C_{14}$ -aryl radical,  
 $R^5 =$  H,  $CH_3$ ,  $COOH$  or a salt thereof,  $COOR^7$ ,  $CONR^7R^7$ , a substituted or unsubstituted  
 5 aryl radical or  $OR^8$ ,  $PO_3H_2$ ,  $SO_3H$ ,  $CONH-R^9$ ,  
 $R^6 =$  H,  $CH_3$  or  $CH_3COOR^7$ ,  
 $R^7 =$  H,  $C_1-C_{12}$ -alkyl,  $C_1-C_{12}$ -hydroxyalkyl,  $C_1-C_{12}$ -alkylphosphate or -phosphonate or a salt thereof,  $C_1-C_{12}$ -alkylsulfate or -sulfonate  
 10 or a salt thereof,  
 $-C_mH_{2m}(O-C_mH_{2m})_{n-1}OR^1$ ,  
 $R^8 =$  acetyl and  
 $R^9 =$   $C_1-C_{12}$ -alkylphosphate or -phosphonate or a salt thereof,  $C_1-C_{12}$ -alkylsulfate or  
 15 -sulfonate or a salt thereof,  
 $R^3$  and  $R^5$  together form  $-O-CO-O-$ ,  
 by the "catalytical chain transfer (CCT)" method,  
 as dispersants for aqueous suspensions of solids.
- 20 2. The use as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the aryl radicals  $R^1$  are substituted by hydroxyl, carboxyl or/and sulfonic acid groups.
- 25 3. The use as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterized in that, in the formula (I),  $m = 2$  or  $3$  and  $n = 5$  to  $250$ .
- 30 4. The use as claimed in any of claims 1 to 3, characterized in that, in the formula (I),  $m'=1$  and  $n'=0$  or  $1$ .
- 35 5. The use as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4, characterized in that, in the formula (II),  $R^3$  and  $R^4 = H$ ,  $R^6 = H$ ,  $CH_3$  and  $R^5 = COOR^7$ ,  $PO_3H_2$  or  $CONH-R^9-SO_3H$ .
6. The use as claimed in any of claims 1 to 5,
- AMENDED SHEET (ARTICLE 19)

characterized in that, in the formula (II),  $R^3$  and  $R^4 = H$ ,  $R^6 = CH_3$ ,  $R^5 = COOH$  or a salt thereof or  $COOR^7$  and  $R^7 = C_1-C_6$ -hydroxyalkyl.

- 5     7.     The use as claimed in any of claims 1 to 6,  
characterized in that  $R^5$  is a carboxylic acid salt  
selected from among alkali metal, alkaline earth  
metal and ammonium salts.
- 10    8.     The use as claimed in any of claims 1 to 7,  
characterized in that the molar ratios of the  
vinylic poly(alkylene oxide) compound (A) to the  
ethylenically unsaturated monomer compound (B)  
15     have been set to from 1:0.01 to 1:100, preferably  
from 1:0.1 to 1:50.
9.     The use as claimed in any of claims 1 to 8,  
characterized in that the comb polymers are used  
in an amount of from 0.01 to 5% by weight, based  
20     on the suspension of solids.
10.    The use as claimed in any of claims 1 to 9,  
characterized in that the suspension of solids  
comprises hydraulic binders based on cement, lime,  
25     plaster of Paris and anhydrite.
11.    The use as claimed in any of claims 1 to 10,  
characterized in that the suspension of solids  
comprises inorganic particles selected from the  
30     group consisting of ground rock, ground silicate,  
chalk, clays, porcelain slips, talc, pigments and  
carbon black.